

an unwavering and powerful force in the ongoing struggle to protect the United States from terrorism and enforce our laws against increasingly sophisticated criminal forces.

Formed in 1908 when then-U.S. Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte asked Stanley W. Finch to lead the Department of Justice's primary investigative division, the FBI began as a relatively small team of 34 Federal agents with no special name or designation. Over time, it grew into a strong and effective leader among U.S. law enforcement organizations.

Today, the FBI has 56 field offices here in the United States, as well as close to 65 legal attaché offices across the world. The Bureau employs roughly 30,000 people, 12,000 of whom are sworn Special Agents. All of these highly-trained men and women deserve our deep gratitude and respect for putting their lives on the line each and every day to protect this country from enemies foreign and domestic. I also would like to express my thanks to FBI Director Robert Mueller for his steadfast leadership of this dedicated group.

My home district, the 13th of Illinois, falls under the jurisdiction of the FBI's Chicago Division. I would especially like to thank the men and women of that office who have dedicated their careers to the protection of individuals and families—including my own—that reside in the Chicago region.

Under the capable leadership of Special Agent In-Charge Robert D. Grant and Assistant Special Agents In-Charge Bob Holly, Mitch Marrone, Bob Shields, Bill Monroe, and Arthur Everett, the highly-regarded Chicago Division has been a powerful force against criminal elements both in the city and throughout northern Illinois.

This Friday, July 25th, the Chicago Field Office will join the Chicago chapter of the FBI Citizen's Academy Alumni Association at Chicago's Navy Pier to celebrate the Bureau's 100-year anniversary. I wish them and all of the other field offices and alumni chapters celebrating this milestone the best as they toast to their past and look forward to future success.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the FBI on the occasion of its 100-year anniversary, and thank the men and women—both those serving today and those who sacrificed so much for us in the past—for their tireless service. Truly, they have fulfilled their duties in accordance with the Bureau's long-held motto of "fidelity, bravery, and integrity."

AMY U. HICKMAN, FINDING SAFE
HOMES FOR OUR CHILDREN

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the tireless efforts of a true local hero, Amy U. Hickman, Esquire.

A long-time Florida resident, Amy earned an Undergraduate and law degree from the University of Florida, then went on to intern for Judge Alcee Hastings, now my friend and colleague in Congress. Since then, Amy has made a name for herself championing adoption legislation improvements.

Amy is known by her peers for her skills as a keen litigator and as THE go-to person for adoption cases.

She had been an associate civil trial litigator at a prestigious South Florida law firm, but Amy chose to devote her career to serving the neediest in our community—our children.

In 1996, Amy co-founded her own practice, with her partner Michelle Hausmann, to specialize in adoption placement, litigation, parental rights and surrogacy.

In 2002, Amy drafted substantial revisions to Florida's adoption law and has successfully lobbied to help children in the Florida legislature.

Amy continues to be a force for positive change. Her career is a testament to her devotion to children that need a home. That is why I nominated Amy as an "angel in Adoption." Her commitment to finding safe homes for our kids is unparalleled. Countless children enjoy a caring childhood, thanks to Amy Hickman. I commend her for her service.

HONORING CHIEF RAY SAMUELS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Ray Samuels' retirement from the Newark, California Police Department and to honor his thirty-four years of exemplary service in law enforcement.

Chief Samuels began his law enforcement career as a community service officer in 1974 with the city of Vallejo, California. He was promoted to police officer the following year. In 1981 he began an eighteen-year career with the Police Department of Concord, California. During his tenure, Chief Samuels held numerous positions within this organization, including Traffic Bureau Commander and Professional Standards Unit Commander.

In March 1999, Chief Samuels joined the Newark Police Department as a Lieutenant. He was responsible for the Administrative Division, Personnel and Training and the Investigation Division. He was promoted to the rank of Captain three years later in April 2002 and appointed Chief of Police in 2003. He became the seventh Police Chief since the City's 1955 incorporation.

Chief Samuels received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Administration of Justice from Golden Gate University. He is also a graduate of the California Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training Command College, Boston's Senior Management Institute for Police, and the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Chief Samuel has been instrumental in the implementation of Community Policing strategies while serving the Newark community. He facilitated the reorganization of the Community Services Division, which was designed to improve coordination and enhance the efforts of the code enforcement unit and the patrol division. Chief Samuels was also actively involved in facilitating a unique partnership between the Newark Police Department and the Newark Unified School District. Under his leadership, a three-officer Community Safety Team was developed and began its focus on gang education, intervention, and enforcement in July 2006.

I join the City of Newark in applauding Chief Samuels' leadership within the Newark Police Department and expressing appreciation for his commitment to community service. He has not only guided the Newark Police Department to excellence but has been active in civic and non-profit organizations to make a difference in the lives of others.

HONORING MR. AND MRS. DICK
AND BETTE GAMEGAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dick and Bette Gamegan on the occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. This is truly a remarkable milestone and I am proud to stand here to recognize this extraordinary couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Gamegan met in high school and quickly became a young couple.

On July 17, 1938, Dick and Bette exchanged wedding vows before relatives and friends at Bette's mother's home in Fresno, California. That hot summer day in Fresno was the start of a union that has spanned seven decades. They spent their honeymoon in Pacific Grove, California where Mr. Gamegan was a golf caddy for the nearby golf course, Pebble Beach.

Mr. Gamegan's later position as a sales manager for the Sears Department Store moved the couple to several different cities across the Nation. Wherever his career would take them, they happily acclimated to each new place and shared the journey that each new city presented.

After working for the Sears Company, Mr. Gamegan purchased and operated Gibbel Hardware Store in California's Central Valley. After his retirement in 1972, the couple made their home in the mountains of Coarsegold, California where they currently reside.

Mr. and Mrs. Gamegan's family includes a daughter, Karen, and one granddaughter.

Over the years, Mr. and Mrs. Gamegan have traveled extensively throughout the world and have shared countless memories together. Since their honeymoon trip to Pacific Grove, the two have been enthusiastic to visit as many places as possible.

In addition to their strong commitment to one another, Mr. and Mrs. Gamegan have shared a tireless dedication for community involvement in their area. They are outstanding community leaders and strong advocates in many worthwhile causes.

Dick and Bette Gamegan have served actively on many neighborhood organizations and projects. Mr. Gamegan is an active member of the Lions and Kiwanis Club. In addition to other charitable work, Mrs. Gamegan served on the Los Ninos Guild for many years, which raised money to benefit the local children's hospital.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Dick Gamegan on their 70th wedding anniversary. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable couple on their special milestone and to wish them many more years of happiness.